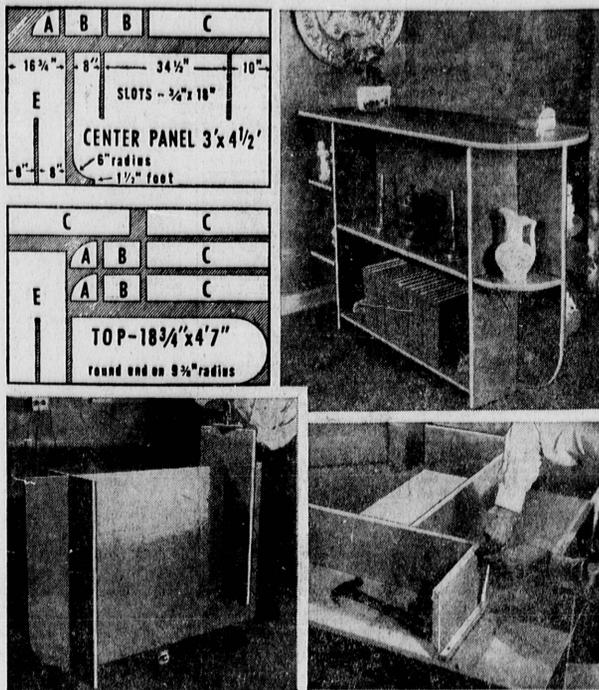


This Bookcase-Room Divider Really 'Fits'



Here's a workshop project that has every characteristic of a fine furniture piece—yet it's amazingly easy to build. A "peninsular bookcase," it also serves as a room divider. The drawings (upper left) show how all parts are cut from two 4 x 6-foot hardwood plywood panels. The center panel and the two cross panels (E) are the magic pieces. Just cut them as indicated and fit the slots together as shown at lower left. No fasteners are required up to this point and the "case" already is completed. All that remains is to add the top and shelves. Shelves "A" are quarter circles cut on an 8-inch radius. Shelves "B" are 8 x 10 inches. Shelves

"C" are 8 x 34 1/2 inches. Place the shelves on both sides in an arrangement to suit your preference. The top and shelves are fastened to cleats cut from hardwood plywood scraps and applied with wood screws. Set cleats out eight-under shelves and behind cross panels. You can cover the plywood edges with wood edgetape if you wish. The "fine furniture" look comes from the use of hardwood plywood, the same material utilized in professionally made furniture. You can choose from many hardwood species, including birch, gum, mahogany, maple, oak and walnut. Hardwood plywood is available through many lumber dealers.

Portable Plants Allow Freedom In Arrangement

The term portable is applied to a great variety of things in today's way of living—and surprisingly enough it can be applied also to certain plants.

Portable plants are actually container-grown subjects that can be moved about from patio, to entrance-way along a wall or a driveway, wherever conditions and your fancy dictate.

And the charm of portable plants is that there are a great number to select from and plants to grow in them. Use tubs and boxes of redwood and other woods, pots of clay, large and small, for your portable plants. Most important, whatever container you use, be sure it drains very freely.

As for the plants you wish to make portable their selection will depend on the area where you plant them. For entrance tubs a dramatic shrub—a bamboo, Mugho pine or boxwood. Along driveways, tubs of dwarf rhododendrons, fuchsias, azaleas, or hydrangeas offer a colorful welcome. Against a wall, smaller plants, such as a dwarf southern magnolia or loquat.

For smaller pots arranged in groups on a terrace, in a corner that needs livening up try some of the bulbs. Tuberoses, begonias, cyclamen, some tulips, daffodils are all natural for the portable plant role. And there are annuals and perennials that will do well in pots and small boxes—lobelia, dwarf petunias, cineraria among the former, and geraniums, some chrysanthemums, heliotrope campanulas in the perennial class.

For further ideas on portable plant culture check with your nurseryman. In addition to supplying you with the containers and plants he'll be able to advise on the proper planting mixtures and culture requirements for portable plants.

Exotic Tropicals Are Made For California Gardeners

For a breath of nether regions, far-away jungles, purple plains, verdant hills, in your California garden there are a number of exotic tropicals that will lend such an atmosphere.

Bird of paradise is just such a tropical. Strelitzia nicotai and strelitzia reginae with their birdlike flowers are the varieties the California Association of Nurserymen recommend for such a garden planting. The nicotai, called the giant bird of paradise, is a perennial plant reaching 30 feet and features white and blue flowers spaced intermittently among the gray-green leaves of the many-stalked plant. Reginae is trunkless and grows to five feet. It features spectacular and long-lasting flowers of orange, blue and white which bloom throughout the year, perhaps the best in the cool season.

Give the strelitzias full sun in coastal areas, light shade inland, a well-fertilized rich soil and occasional applications of acid-base fertilizer or iron sulfate.

Shell flower or porcelain ginger is the enticing name of another lovely tropical, also known as the Alpina speciosa.

A tropical herb it grows to eight feet and can be distinguished by its reddish leaf sheaths which turn maroon at maturity. Lots of water, little shade, and soil and wind-free exposure are the culture requirements of this plant.

Another ginger family is the hedycheium, called ginger lily. Kahili ginger (hedycheium garnerianum) grows to eight feet with very fragrant clear yellow flowers from July to October. Cream ginger lily (hedycheium flavum), is the tallest and latest blooming of the ginger blooming in California. Spikes of pale yellow to buff appear in late October set amidst heart-shaped gray-green leaves. Give ginger plenty of moisture, light shade inland and full sun along the coast and a soil high in humus. Remove old canes to the ground when they are finished blooming to stimulate fresh growth.

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GARDENER'S CHECKLIST

1. Fall bulb planting season is on: try daffodils, tulips, freesias and some of the other lovely spring-flowering bulb flowers.
2. Clean up your garden now. Spray for aphids, scale and other insects doing damage to shrubs and shade trees at this time.
3. Protect the rooting area of rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias with a one inch mulch of leaf mold.
4. Set in ground covers now. Fall and winter rains will help establish them.

Jose Quinones Now at Fort Knox, Kentucky

Army Pvt. Jose D. Quinones, 18, son of Jose Quinones, of 2125 Del Amo Blvd., is receiving basic training at Fort Knox, Ky., as a member of the 3d Division.

A former Torrance High School student Private Quinones is assigned to the division's 65th Field Artillery Battalion.

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Daffodils Planted in Fall Give Early Spring Color

Time to get that daffodil catalog and make your selections for fall planting! One of the west's favorite bulbs, the daffodil can be successfully planted to provide gorgeous blooms of yellow, white and varying shades of orange and gold for a period of over two months.

There are several reasons for planting daffodils, says the California Association of Nurserymen: the daffodil is an extremely

dependable performer, blooming the first year of its planting and increasing steadily thereafter; the bulbs of this flower can be left in the ground for several years until the flowers show signs of deterioration from overwatering.

Exploding the myth that the daffodil blooms in such a short season, nurserymen suggest a way to achieve weeks of blooms. By planting some of the paper white narcissus, the cyclaminus varieties such as February gold and beryl you can open your daffodil season in January and February. Next up for blooming are the trumpet varieties—King Alfred, Dawson City, golden harvest—then the large cupped ones such as Tun-

is, fortune and Francisco Drake, followed by the small-cupped varieties—Diana Kasner, hercules, hades. Last in the procession are the poeticus types, the Jonquil hybrids, Golden Perfection, and the Trindus varieties—Thalia and Silver Chimes. By planting some representatives of each of these varieties you will have a steady parade of daffodils in your spring and early summer garden.

In planting several of the daffodil varieties set the early blooming ones in the back, the later in front—annuals scattered among the bulbs will bloom and cover the fading bulb foliage of the early daffodils.

There are many lovely ways to utilize the daffodil's bright spring charm. Delightful is the perfect description for scattered clump plantings of daffodils along a walk or under rows of deciduous trees. The trees afford filtered sun in winter and protection from the summer sun. Also, try Daffodils intermixed with ground covers, annuals or some of the early-blooming bulbs.

If you wish, you can force early bloom indoors, December or so, by planting in boxes and containers. Forced blooming can be done only once on a bulb. Or you can container-

grow daffodils, allowing them to follow their natural blooming process.

Container-grown or planted in the garden, the happy daffodil is a pleasure-giving flower demanding a minimum of care and culture. Plant the bulbs at a depth two and one-half times greater than their size and about eight inches apart. Do not fertilize unless the soil is unusually poor—and in that case work bone meal into the soil before planting. Make sure the flowers face the sun by providing them a background that will force them to face the vantage point. In very warm areas daffodils require filtered sun.

Follow these simple culture requirements and you will have "a crowd of host of golden daffodils fluttering and dancing in the breeze," as the poet Waldo-worth joyfully described those he saw blooming.

Man Breaks In Church, But Nothing Missing

Although a man was seen crawling in the window of the Narbonne Ave. Baptist Church, 2473 Narbonne Ave., nothing apparently was taken, the Rev. Robert Wells told sheriff's deputies last week.

Good Seed Mixture Needed To Assure Beautiful Lawn

"The only way to have a beautiful lawn at a minimum cost is to plant a seed mixture containing adequate amounts of high quality permanent grass," Louis N. Bass of Iowa State College advised members of the American Society of Agronomy at Davis yesterday.

Speaking at the turfgrass session, Bass said, "There is no finer grass available for lawns in areas where Kentucky bluegrass is adapted than that grass itself." He pointed out that bluegrass is suited over a wide variety of conditions in a major portion of the United States.

"A home owner who buys lawn seed at a low price will probably obtain an unsatisfactory lawn because most low-cost lawn mixtures contain little or no Kentucky bluegrass or other permanent lawn grass," Bass continued. "Pretty pictures on seed packages are sometimes misleading; therefore, the public should be constantly reminded to buy according to analysis and reliable brand rather than package glamour."

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